

Position Description

PD#

Replaces PD#

Shred:

*Interdisciplinary
GS- -14

Installation: varies

Major Command: CE
Region: varies

Citation: OPM PCS Mechanical Engineering Series, GS-0830, Jun 77
OPM PCS GGEG for Nonsupv. Professional Engr. Positions, GS-0800, Jun 71

PD Library PD: No

COREDOC PD: No

Classified By: Monroe A. Major, Senior Compensation Specialist, HQUSACE
Classification Date: 21 March 2001

FLSA: Exempt	Drug Test Required:	CIPMS PD: No
Career Program: 18	Financial Disclosure Required:	Acquisition Position: No
Functional Code:	Requires Access To Fire Arms:	No Interdisciplinary: Yes
Competitive Area: varies	Position Sensitivity:	Target Grade: FPL/14
Competitive Level: varies	Emergency Essential:	Career Ladder PD: No

*Interdisciplinary Position – Classifiable as any of the following:

Community Planner, GS-020-14
Environmental Engineer, GS-0819-14
Civil Engineer, GS-0810-14
Physical Scientist, GS-1301-14
Geographer, GS-0150-14
Archeologist, GS-0193-14
General Biologist, GS-0401-14
Fishery Biologist, GS-0482-14
Wildlife Biologist, GS-0486-14
Anthropologist GS-0190-14
Social Scientist, GS-0101-14
Soil Conservationist, GS-0457-14
Landscape Architect, GS-0807-14
Ecologist, GS-0408-14

Duties:

Serves as MSC senior expert in the planning aspects of ecosystem restoration, environmental evaluation, and environmental compliance for Civil Works projects within the regional area of a large USACE Engineering Division with a number of separate District operating programs within several States, involving a wide variety of complex projects with high environmental and

ecological concerns of government, public, private, and possibly international interests. Manages and provides quality assurance for environmental activities performed within the Division and subordinate districts. Based on a comprehensive knowledge of environmental compliance requirements and ecosystem restoration and environmental evaluation policies and techniques, provides expertise and guidance to key operating officials and counterparts at district, Division, Headquarters, and other government agencies and private interests. Provides technical consultation and guidance within and outside the agency.

Major Civil Works projects and actions within the varied region include both single and multi-objective projects for flood damage reduction, ecosystem restoration, water conservation and supply, hydropower, navigation, coastal and storm damage reduction, water quality, and essential emergency response as one of or more of the primary outputs. Studies and projects usually have high Congressional interest and often high visibility with the media due to strongly held public opinions on issues such as protection of endangered species, public trade-offs between water for ecosystem restoration of fish and wildlife habitat as opposed to municipal and industrial use, and issues related to the economic efficiency of urban expansion into flood plains. Plans for addressing water and related land resource problems and opportunities involve major Civil Works projects serving the varied needs of the region. Report recommendations cover improvements comprised of multiple integrated features such as dams, roads, bridges, levees, channels, floodwalls, utility relocations, non-structural measures, environmental restoration and mitigation features, recreation facilities, and monitoring programs. Sponsors include the states, counties, cities, ports and water and flood control districts throughout the Division.

Serves as an expert in national forums on ecosystem restoration, environmental evaluation, and environmental compliance, requiring analysis of a broad base of scientific and technical information to develop environmentally sensitive alternatives to a full array of conflicting and often mutually incompatible planning objectives. Serves on national committees and task forces that address environmental policies and nation-wide implementation of techniques for analysis.

1. COMMAND AND CONTROL:

a. Provides technical expertise and guidance on all environmental planning matters to Division leadership, district leadership, Headquarters, other divisions, other government agencies and private interests. Assists and serves as the principal advisor to the Chief, Planning and Policy Division, Director, Civil Works and Management and the Division Commander and other Division and district staff on all matters regarding ecosystem restoration, environmental evaluation, and compliance for all studies and projects.

b. Establishes overall planning goals and objectives for the Planning and Policy Division and for the districts, consistent with HQUSACE initiatives. Participates in strategic and tactical planning for the Planning and Policy Division and helps to integrate the results of these efforts related to assigned planning activities into each district's planning program and quality control procedures.

c. Facilitates conferences on water and related land resource planning-related matters attended by Washington-level representatives, including Reconnaissance Review Conferences (RRC), Issue Resolution Conferences (IRC), Alternative Formulation Briefings (AFB) and Feasibility

Review Conferences (FRC). Negotiates the resolution of contentious issues, speaking for the Division Commander. Participates with district and HQUSACE representatives in the preparation of guidance memorandums. Chairs conferences on the behalf of the Chief, Planning and Policy Division.

d. Represents or guides and coaches representation of the Division during the Washington-level review of studies and decision documents, and actively participates in the defense of proposed Civil Works studies and projects.

e. Conducts the environmental evaluation and compliance portions of the district command inspections and provides input to other aspects of the planning portion of the inspections. Special emphasis is placed on assuring the correct implementation of quality control procedures for environmental evaluations and compliance for water and related land resource studies. Provides written assessments to the Command.

f. Ensures consistent application of ecosystem restoration, mitigation, and other environmental guidance issued by HQUSACE, ASA (CW), or other Administration elements. Provides interim guidance pending full policy development or interpretation at the national level. Formulates regional environmental procedures and policies within the framework of policy directives issued by higher authority to facilitate planning activities and programs and appropriate documentation and reporting by the districts. For issues not clearly covered by existing regulations, interprets the intent of regulations, policies or procedures. Based on personal experience, a comprehensive knowledge of ecosystem restoration, environmental evaluation and environmental compliance, research, consultation with other experts in the field and use of an informed consensus, recommends interpretations that may result in the development of precedents for changes to policy or procedures when approved at higher headquarters. Makes decisions, interpretations, and recommendations that may significantly change the implementation of ecosystem restoration, environmental evaluation, and environmental compliance throughout the Division.

g. Investigates needs and analyzes the effects of legislation, standards and policies on ecosystem restoration, environmental evaluation and environmental compliance, and formulates recommendations for changes in law and policy. Develops, analyzes, and recommends policy changes to HQUSACE.

h. Initiates and chairs work groups or facilitates teams to resolve identified problems, evaluate progress on implementation by the districts, identify program deficiencies, and develop proposals to ensure that agency objectives and legislative requirements are met.

30%

2. REGIONAL INTERFACE:

a. Maintains contact with representatives of other Corps offices, other Federal and state agencies and interagency committees. Participates in national and regional workshops and conferences in a continuing effort to maintain coordination with all agencies engaged in ecosystem restoration and environmental evaluation of related water resources development, to minimize duplication of effort, and to achieve maximum effectiveness in overall development of joint actions and activities by the several agencies.

b. Provides regional environmental interface with Congressional interests, project and study partners and sponsors, resource agencies, environmental groups, and other concerned interests on water and related land resource problems and issues. Represents the Corps on issues related to ecosystem restoration, environmental evaluation, and environmental compliance for water and related land use projects. Facilitates resolution of differences between the Corps and other agencies/interests. Serves as the proponent for regional issues with HQUSACE, other Federal agencies, and other regional interests, including sponsors, partners, regional regulatory agencies, and environmental groups.

c. Serves as a liaison to Federal and state agencies, consultants, and universities. Coordinates with regional customers and partners to advocate Corps capabilities and present Corps programs or positions.

d. Provides expert advice to the Division Commander on coordinating environmental matters with HQUSACE, the ASA(CW), other Divisions and districts, state agencies, local governments, and other Federal agencies. Represents the Division Commander at regional and national meetings, workshops, committees, professional conferences, and inter-agency groups as an authority on the Corps' environmental programs, for the exchange of information, procedures, and other matters related to the development water resources projects and environmental documents. Prepares and presents papers for presentation within areas of expertise.

e. Advises HQUSACE on regional trends; needs for and availability of new techniques, information and technology; and needs for training beneficial to ecosystem restoration, environmental evaluation, environmental compliance, and the overall planning process.

f. Serves as a national subject matter expert in the areas of ecosystem restoration, environmental evaluation, and environmental compliance, as well as in the application of related planning policies and procedures to the region. Serves on HQUSACE committees and task forces to establish environmental policies, procedures, and guidelines for water and related land resource projects.

g. Consults with representatives of industry, education, scientific, engineering, environmental, and technological groups to provide for the development of new methodologies for ecosystem restoration and environmental evaluation as they affect the program area. Exchanges useful information on progress in the field and plans cooperative activities and integrated approaches to problems.

20%

3. PROGRAM MANAGEMENT:

a. Provides oversight of the pre-authorization planning program and the post-authorization planning activities, with emphasis on ecosystem restoration, environmental evaluation, and environmental compliance. Maintains a comprehensive knowledge of planning studies and monitors environmental outputs and compliance to determine studies that are likely to provide favorable results and execution. Provides guidance, insight, and direction as needed through personal contacts with higher levels of district management and/or Division staff as required and as dictated by the situation.

b. Assists in the development of a framework and strategy for the Division's water resources planning program to comply and be consistent with Corps regulations, legislation, and Administration policy and goals. Reviews district budget proposals, assists the Civil Works Management Division in developing and defending the planning program budget and post-authorization elements of the budget. Provides input in the development of annual budgetary submittals through critical analysis of the proposed plan outputs and impacts. Appraises the environmental justification of improvements and compliance with applicable laws, regulations, policies, and Congressional commitments. Furnishes assistance or data when requested to assist in developing testimony for budget defense. Recommends inclusion of studies and projects in future programs based on assessment of priority outputs and environmental justification.

c. Monitors and evaluates district planning program performance and recommends appropriate actions.

d. Provides environmental evaluation and compliance support to the other elements within the Division. Attends the Division Project Review Board (PRB) on behalf of the Chief, Planning and Policy Division.

10%

4. QUALITY ASSURANCE:

a. Coordinates with, and makes recommendations to, districts on changes in their ecosystem restoration, environmental evaluation, and environmental compliance programs to assure accord with national and regional quality control policy and objectives. Provides Division-wide and district-wide direction for the improvement of the quality control/quality assurance program for environmental related activities based upon audits and assessments made by the Planning and Policy Division. Leads and motivates district staffs in developing a positive attitude towards the quality management process.

b. Provides technical oversight of district water and related land resource planning programs, with an emphasis on the performance of ecosystem restoration and environmental compliance, and integration of these in the plan formulation, environmental evaluation, and report preparation functions. Facilitates preparation of environmental analyses that are fully documented, technically correct, procedurally and regulatory sound, and include appropriate consideration of risk and uncertainty. Assures and monitors the districts' quality control programs for ecosystem restoration and environmental impact studies and the integration of these activities into planning reports, and related reports developed by other elements (e.g., engineering, operations, construction, and maintenance elements). Maintains oversight of district independent technical review processes as they pertain to production of environmental documents. Participates in interim milestone conferences as a part of the quality assurance process and prepares assessments of the districts' quality control program.

c. Leads district staffs in seeking innovative approaches to enhance efficiency and effectiveness in ecosystem restoration, environmental evaluation, and environmental compliance. Develops, evaluates and recommends procedures, new analytical methods and techniques, and guidelines for accomplishing environmental studies, including baseline assessments, scoping, public

participation, environmental evaluations, and compliance. Develops regional technical guidance and approves deviations from technical criteria and standards within authority delegated by HQUSACE. Provides oversight and direct assistance to district office staffs for development of technology and methodologies to ensure regional consistency and compatibility of analytical methods and findings, and to ensure that the information used to justify water resource projects is sound and well documented and legally defensible.

d. Develops procedures for conducting quality assurance audits and provides technical oversight for environmental activities. Participates in the development of the Division's quality management plan. Participates in the review and approval of district quality management plans.

e. Periodically conducts audits of the quality control process. Performs detailed technical review of specific environmental documents, as well as the documentation of the independent technical review. Provides direction to improve the independent review process. Environmental products are selected based on requirements of the districts, products with unique or experimental methodologies, and those products where there is a history of a high probability of failure. These will normally be the most difficult and complex water and related land resource studies within the program. Assists other technical elements in auditing district products and processes that include ecosystem restoration, environmental evaluation, or environmental compliance.

f. Monitors technical competency of district planning teams for production and review of environmental documents, and recommends appropriate action. Assists district staffs in developing high-quality technical review capabilities. Serves as the clearinghouse for inter-district cooperation in assuring fully qualified professional team members to perform high-quality technical review of environmental documents in the districts.

g. Provides assistance to districts in resolving major technical issues and facilitates resolution of environmental policy issues. Interprets Corps-wide ecosystem restoration, environmental evaluation, and environmental compliance policies; provides guidance and oversees, for quality assurance, the environmental aspects of studies and projects in the Division. Coordinates extensively with counter-parts at the district, Division and HQUSACE levels, state and local officials, and private interests to develop solutions for contentious technical, legal, and policy issues. At the request of a district, may perform technical review that is outside of the quality assurance role for the most sensitive, complex, or contentious environmental issues. Performs subject matter research to verify and validate correctness of environmental issues in contention and ensures that a technically sound and viable course of action is pursued by the district in developing solutions that correctly account for all positive and negative environmental impacts, including all ecosystem restoration benefits.

h. Provides oversight in development and any necessary reviews of project management plans, feasibility cost sharing agreements, project cost sharing agreements, memorandum of understandings, and intergovernmental agreements, in support to the Civil Works Management Division.

i. Monitors customer satisfaction with district environmental and related planning products, and

district conduct of planning program elements.

30%

5. TRAINING:

- a. Identifies Planning education and training requirements; coordinates development of training with Division and district planning chiefs, HQUSACE, and other Federal agencies.
- b. Serves as a member of national planning task forces. Develops nation-wide proposals, curriculum and policies that are related to planning training. Exchanges initiatives with Headquarters and other divisions.
- c. Develops presentations and workshops related to ecosystem restoration, environmental evaluation, and environmental compliance, especially in those areas that reflect regional policy and technical expertise. Makes presentations and facilitates workshops that are attended by Division and district staff and representatives of the Headquarters, other divisions, agencies, project sponsors, and consultants.
- d. Makes presentations or otherwise participates in agency and professional conferences and workshops. Participates in the development of conference agenda, coordinates with district, Division and HQUSACE staff and organizes, manages and facilitates individual sessions.
- e. Serves as a mentor to less experienced district staff, providing advice on skill and career development, and career development opportunities.

10%

Performs other duties as assigned.

Factor 1 - Knowledge Required by the Position: Level 1-8

1550 pts

-Mastery of concepts, principles, and practices in one or more of the professional disciplines of professional engineering or related sciences to provide for the evaluation and assessment of environmental compliance and ecosystem restoration within area of assignment.

-Knowledge of principles, philosophy, and implementation methods of Total Army Quality for quality assurance of district environmental compliance and ecology products and services.

-Knowledge and skills necessary to provide staff advisory, consulting, and evaluation expertise within and outside the MSC on regional and national levels with ability to recommend unique solutions to environmental and ecological problems stemming from various causes.

-Knowledge of various engineering and scientific fields such as civil engineering, geography, archeology, social sciences, etc. to provide for the planning, evaluation and assessment of construction, demolition, and/or restoration of projects.

Factor 2 - Supervisory Controls:

Level 2-5

650 pts

Works under general administrative supervision of the Chief, Planning and Policy Division, who provides work assignments in terms of broad guidelines and program objectives. Incumbent

accomplishes activities on own initiative, exercising independent judgment in the analysis and solution of complex problems and attainment of program goals. Evaluations, commitments, and conclusions reached within the incumbent's area of expertise serve as standards and guides for the Division. Recommendations and decisions are accepted as technically sound, with final approval subject to formal action of higher authority. Performance is evaluated in terms of program accomplishments, resourcefulness in solving technical and managerial problems, and effectiveness in dealing with higher echelons, key officials of other agencies, and other functional elements.

Factor 3 - Guidelines:

Level 3-5

650 pts

Works under broad and general policy statements, regulations, and laws including Army, Corps of Engineers and MSC regulations, technical criteria, and policy manuals; Federal, state, and local government laws and technical criteria; national building codes, technical guidance, laws, and procedures established in engineering textbooks, professional journals, and other private sector sources. Interprets policies, regulations, etc., exercising considerable judgment and ingenuity in interpreting and adapting guides that exist and in developing new and improved methods and approaches, or concepts not previously used in the field. As a recognized authority in environmental and ecological matters participates in the development of publications and reference materials, technical manuals, state-of-the art technical concepts, and other standards used by other engineers and scientists in the public and private sector.

Factor 4 – Complexity:

Level 4-5

325 pts

Planning and design aspects of projects for environmental compliance and ecosystems restoration cover the entire range of engineering and scientific specializations and disciplines in the construction, operation, and maintenance of all types of facilities, land, and water use problems. Planning requires the review of projects at numerous locations, containing a variety of complex features under diverse climatic and geographical conditions. Versatility and innovation is required in modifying methods or developing new approaches to solve a variety of novel and complex construction, operations, and maintenance problems in the interests of environmental and ecosystem concerns.

Factor 5 – Scope and Effect:

Level 5-5

325 pts

Purpose of the work is to provide expert authoritative direction, guidance, and advice in the the planning and initiation of environmental compliance and ecosystem restoration projects conducted within the MSC. The Division includes several districts covering several states within a geographical area of hundreds of thousands of square miles involving a number of Civil Works programs and numerous environmental and ecological concerns. Advice, assistance, and decisions rendered by the incumbent have significant impact on the Division and districts and frequently involve relationships affecting the work of other Federal, state, local, congressional, public, and possibly international interests.

Factor 6 – Personal Contacts:

Level 6-3

60 pts

Personal contacts are with high level engineering, scientific, and management personnel at

HQUSACE, other MSCs, districts, laboratories, Major Military Commands, executives of AE firms, and interagency meetings, national conferences, and committees.

Factor 7 – Purpose of Contacts: Level 7-3 120 pts

Contacts are for the purpose of exchanging information, coordinating the planning of projects involving environmental and ecosystem restoration programs, and providing guidance and assistance. Participates in interagency meetings and national conferences and committees as an authority in environmental engineering and ecosystem restoration.

Factor 8 – Physical Demands: Level 8-1 5 pts

Work is sedentary except for project site visits where some walking and climbing are required.

Factor 9. Work Environment: Level 9-1 5 pts

Work is primarily in an office setting, however, infrequent travel to project sites might be required which may require the use of personal protection equipment.

Total Points – 3690

Range – 3605 to 4050 pts

Grade – GS-14